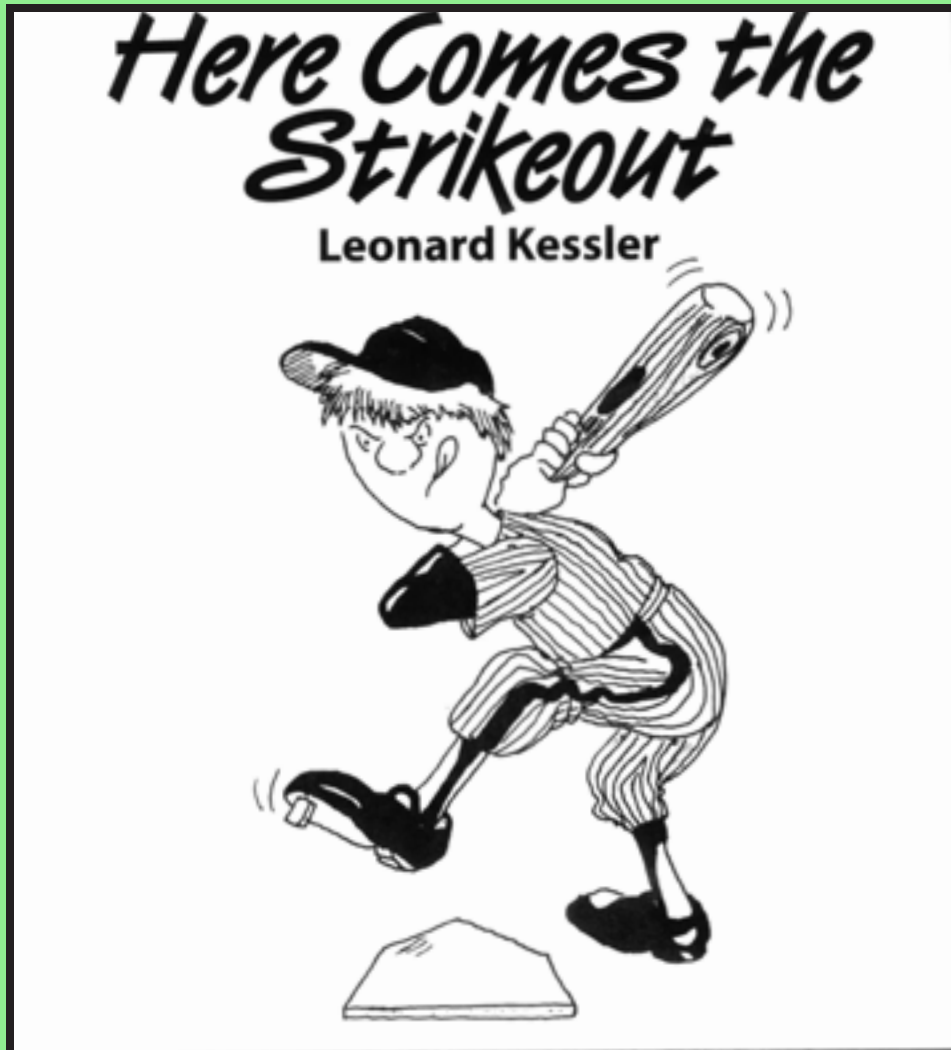


Novel·Ties



A Study Guide

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LEARNING LINKS

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For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide consists of lessons to use in conjunction with the book *Here Comes the Strikeout*. Written in chapter-by-chapter format, the guide contains a synopsis, pre-reading activities, vocabulary and comprehension exercises, as well as extension activities to be used as follow-up to the novel.

In a homogeneous classroom, whole class instruction with one title is appropriate. In a heterogeneous classroom, reading groups should be formed: each group works on a different novel on its reading level. Depending upon the length of time devoted to reading in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in three to six weeks.

Begin using NOVEL-TIES for guided reading by distributing the novel and a folder to each child. Distribute duplicated pages of the study guide for students to place in their folders. After examining the cover and glancing through the book, students can participate in several pre-reading activities. Vocabulary questions should be considered prior to reading a chapter or group of chapters; all other work should be done after the chapter has been read. Comprehension questions can be answered orally or in writing. The classroom teacher should determine the amount of work to be assigned, always keeping in mind that readers must be nurtured and that the ultimate goal is encouraging students' love of reading.

The benefits of using NOVEL-TIES are numerous. Students read good literature in the original, rather than in abridged or edited form. The good reading habits will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

Pre-Reading Activities (cont.)

5. You and your classmates might bring baseball trading cards into school. Talk about the players, their records, and their difficulties. To learn more about three of the most famous baseball players, read the following:

Willie Mays

Willie Mays began playing baseball in 1951. He first played for the New York (later San Francisco) Giants. Willie Mays played for 22 seasons. He was a great hitter, fielder, and catcher. He drove in more than 100 runs eight years in a row; he hit 660 home runs. He was the first man to hit 300 home runs and steal 300 bases. In the field, he got 7,095 putouts, the most for an outfielder in major league history. He won the Golden Glove award for fielding twelve times.

Casey Stengel

Casey Stengel was born in 1890. He worked as both a baseball player and a manager, but he is best known for his work as a baseball manager. Casey Stengel managed four baseball teams over the course of 25 years. He managed the New York Yankees from 1949 to 1960. In that time, the Yankees won 10 pennants and 7 World Series titles. He was the first manager of the New York Mets.

Mickey Mantle

Mickey Mantle started his baseball career in 1949 as a shortstop, but he became an outfielder when he began to play for the New York Yankees in 1951. He hit 536 home runs in his baseball career. In 1956, he won baseball's Triple Crown. (.353 batting average, 52 home runs, and 130 runs batted in). He broke a record by hitting 18 home runs in the World Series. Mantle was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1974.

Pages 6 - 13 (cont.)

Questions:

1. What are three things Bobby can do in a game of baseball?
2. What is the one thing Bobby cannot do?
3. How does Willie try to help Bobby?

Question for Discussion:

What do you think Bobby should do to become a better hitter?

Writing Activity:

Write about something you would like to learn to do.

I would like to learn how to _____

_____.

I will learn how to do this by _____

_____.

Some of the people who might help me are _____

_____.